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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE PCT NATIONAL STAGE APPLICATION OF STEINER, ET AL

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO: PCT/EP2004/013392

I.A. FILING DATE: NOVEMBER 25, 2004

U.S. APPLICATION NO: NOT YET ASSIGNED

35 USC §371 DATE: HEREWITH

FOR: METHOD FOR THE PROTECTION OF MATERIALS

Mail Stop PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Applicant respectfully requests that the following amendments be entered. No new matter has been introduced by virtue of these amendments.